

Message Text

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70

ACTION NEA-10

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DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-05 DHA-02 /094 W

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R 081615Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4025

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY RABAT

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR AG MO SS

SUBJECT: SAHARA: ALGERIA RECOGNIZES SAHRAOUI REPUBLIC AND REACTS
TO MOROCCAN-MAURITANIAN BREAK IN RELATIONS

1. ON MARCH 6, ALGERIA RECOGNIZED SAHRAOUI DEMOCRATIC ARABA REPUBLIC (SDAR). IN COMMUNIQUE, GOA BASED ACTION ON RECENT OAU MINISTERIAL DECISIONS VIS-A-VIS TERRITORY AND SAID THAT IT WOULD FURNISH ALL NECESSARY POLITICAL, MORAL AND MATERIAL SUPPORT NEEDED BY SAHRAOUI TO ACHIEVE NATIONAL ASPIRATIONS.

2. NEWS OF MOROCCO'S AND MAURITANIA'S SUBSEQUENT BREAK IN RELATIONS WITH ALGERIA TREATED IN LOW-KEY FASHION IN MEDIA MARCH 7-8. EDITORIAL IN EL MOUDJAHID MARCH 8 SAYS MOVE IS NEW ANTI-ALGERIAN STEP WHICH HIGHLIGHTS TENSION IN REGION. GOM, EDITORIAL CLAIMS, HAS DISGUISED ITS DEFEAT AT OAU TO MOROCCAN PEOPLE JUST AS IT DID EARLIER SETBACKS IN ICJ AND COMMITTEE OF 24.

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3. GOA CONTINUES TO DECLARE VICTORY AT OAU. ALGERIAN

DECLARATION RECOGNIZING SDAR ASSERTS THAT OAU HAD RECOGNIZED POLISARIO BECAUSE "REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF LIBERATION RECOMMENDING RECOGNITION OF POLISARIO AS LIBERATION MOVEMENT HAD BEEN ADOPTED BY MAJORITY AND ALL RECOMMENDATIONS OF LIBERATION COMMITTEE ARE VOTED BY SIMPLE MAJORITY. EDITORIAL ON BREAK IN RELATIONS CLAIMS THAT OAU MINISTERIAL HAD REAFFIRMED INVIOABILITY OF AFRICAN FRONTIERS INHERITED FROM COLONIALISM AND OF TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY, "INCLUDING TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF WESTERN SAHARA." THUS, "MADRID, RABAT, NOUAKCHOTT COLLUSION" HAD BEEN CONDEMNED, PIECE CLAIMS. ALSO, ACCORDING TO EDITORIAL, OAU DEPUTY SECY GEN ONU HAD DECLARED THAT MINISTERIAL CONSIDERED PROCLAMATION OF SDAR AS EXPRESSION OF SAHRAOUI REGIHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION AND THAT PROCLAMATION HAD RENDERED RECOGNITION OF POLISARIO "INEFFECTIVE."

4. PRESS ALSO HEADLINES ANNOUNCEMENT THAT SDAR PLANNING REQUEST ADMITTANCE TO ARAB LEAGUE, UN AND OAU. IT QUOTES POLISARIO SPOKESMAN BABA MISKE'S CALL ON ARAB LEAGUE "TO PRESSURE MOROCCO AND MAURITANIA TO WITHDRAW THEIR TROOPS FROM WESTERN SAHARA AND CEASE THEIR ACTS OF EXTERMINATION AGAINST OUR PEOPLE FORCED TO DEFEND THEMSELVES TO SURVIVE." AND HIS COMMENT. "WE EXPECT ARAB LEAGUE TO BE MORE ACTIVE."

5. COMMENT: ALGERIANS SEEM TO BE INDULGING IN CERTAIN AMOUNT OF OBFUSCATION CONCERNING WHAT HAPPENED IN ADDIS ABABA. THEY HAVE NOW MOVED FROM ASSERTION THAT MAJORITY OF OAU HAD "STRONGLY SUPPORTED" RECOGNITION OF POLISARIO TO CLAIM THAT RECOGNITION "ADOPTED" BY MAJORITY. AT SAME TIME THEY CONTINUE ARGUMENT THAT POLISARIO DECISION OVERTAKEN (WE ASSUME THIS IS WHAT THEY MEAN BY "INEFFECTIVE") BY SDAR'S PROCLAMATION.PARKER

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